

Waste Reduction Task Force

Public & Private Participation Work Group #2

March 6, 2008

Conference Call Summary

Work Group Members Present by Telephone: Charles Baines, Sami Barile, Faye Dalton, Sharon Smith, Marty Turbeville

Facilitator: Paula Larson, TDEC

This meeting was held via conference call. The topics covered in this meeting were reviewing the primary recommendation from the February 21st meeting and forming secondary and third recommendations. The primary recommendation listed below was reviewed and agreed upon by all the group members. The secondary and third recommendations are also listed below. The group started discussing pros and cons to the secondary recommendation.

Primary Recommendation:

Public sector (residential) recycling and waste reduction tonnage gathered from city and county programs will be reported to TDEC in the APR. (Municipality participation will fall under Working Group #2's recommendation on municipalities reporting requirements.)

Private sector (industrial, institutional, commercial) recycling and waste reduction tonnage data will be required by law to be reported to TDEC through ReTrac, on a phased-in schedule.

Secondary Recommendation:

Newly permitted facilities (landfills, C & D facilities, transfer stations, expansions on existing landfills) will be required to separate recyclable materials on the front-end of waste collection. This could include curbside pickup, voluntary drop-off programs, and/or sorting and separating on-site.

This requirement of separating materials will be a part of the permit application. In order to be granted a permit, there must be a plan for separation, sorting, etc. written in the permit application.

Pros to implementation:

- Cost effective for counties
- Provides reduction of waste going into landfills
- Revenues for recyclables could increase (more quantity of recyclables generated)

Cons to implementation:

- Landfill owner conflict (there would be more staff needed at landfills to sort and separate recyclables)
- Education of general public and landfill operators
- Enforcement challenges
 - TDEC having 'teeth' to enforce non-compliance
 - Determining if fines, rejection of permit application, or other punishment options for non compliance would be most effective

Third Recommendation:

Specific waste streams including cardboard, electronic waste, aluminum, and metal would be banned from landfills.

Next meeting:

The next meeting is on March 20th, 2008 in Nashville.